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David Engel to Lead Law & Society Association

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a huge rally. Mutua was among the speakers. The demonstrators decided to take their protest to the streets.

"I heard the sound of feet running," Mutua recalls now in the North Buffalo house he shares with Athena and their three small children, Lumumba, Amani and Mwalimu. "I asked what was happening. ... Someone had been shot in the back with rubber bullets."

The students and their sympathizers, as many as 10,000, broke up into guerrilla bands. Mutua and a few other student government leaders went underground, hiding out while fighting continued between demonstrators and the Kenyan police forces.

After three days, Mutua disguised himself and went to a neighborhood bar where he knew he could find out what was happening. He had been there only a few minutes when he felt "an instrument placed against my temple" — a pistol. The security forces had found him.

They ordered him into the trunk of a car, drove around Nairobi for several hours, then took him to an underground cell in a detention center. They questioned him about whether the students had been given money by the Soviets to induce them to demonstrate. Nonsense, he said. They asked questions about Marxism, and the future professor gave them an introductory lecture. Detention without charges was illegal after 24 hours, but they held him for four days.

Meanwhile, news of his arrest had spread because a sympathetic professor had contacted the press. Mutua tried to force his captors' hand. He embarked on a hunger strike — no food or water. It lasted seven days, until "I was too weak to stand up."

But it worked. The security police drove him to his sister's house and unceremoniously dumped him on the curb. Freedom — but not for long. His sources told him that he had been freed only so he would eat, and they planned to detain him once again.

Mutua knew he could not stay in Kenya. He traveled to the heavily patrolled border, and he walked out of his homeland, past soldiers wielding AK-47s, and into neighboring Tanzania.

Mutua finished law school at the University of Dar-es-Salaam, where he became a lecturer. But his safety was never certain. The two governments, Kenya and Tanzania, had arranged an illegal trade of political refugees, seeking to repatriate troublemakers and punish them. Two Kenyans who were

returned, Mutua says, were hanged.

"I decided that by being in Tanzania I was playing Russian roulette with my life," he says. He applied to Harvard Law School, returned to the United States, and in 1987 earned a Doctor of Juridical Science.

Such were his formative student years — a time when he learned the law, but also saw firsthand how the law and its abuses can dominate the politics of a nation and the lives of its citizens. ■

Engel named President of Law and Society Association

David M. Engel, professor of law and director of the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy at the University at Buffalo, has been elected president of the 1,400-member Law and Society Association (LSA).

Engel will be installed as president at the group's annual meeting in St. Louis in June.



Members of the LSA, founded in 1965, include U.S. and international scholars from the fields of law, sociology, political science, psychology, anthropology, economics and history.

Concerned with the role of law in social, political, economic and cultural life, a major aim of LSA is to encourage input from a variety of disciplines into the study of sociolegal topics.

A UB faculty member since 1985, Engel teaches courses in law, culture and society, and law and social science. A book he co-authored, *Law and Community in Three American Towns*, won LSA's book award in 1996. He is associate editor of *Law & Society Review*, the LSA journal.

Before joining the UB faculty, he served as a research attorney and project director for the American Bar Foundation and a Peace Corps volunteer, teacher and educational supervisor working in Songkhla, Thailand.

He earned a bachelor's degree from Harvard College and master's and law degrees from the University of Michigan.

Engel lives in Amherst. ■